

seems ignored altogether. In spite of the fact that helpless patients need many little attentions during the night, the unfortunate day nurse is expected to "look round once or twice during the night" to see how the still more unfortunate patients are getting on, and to make up the fires. It is only for nurses that it could be thought possible that uninterrupted sleep is not necessary, and the evil consequences assuredly follow—neuralgia, headaches, and a series of minor ailments, including discontent.

Therefore, at this Tilbury Hospital we arranged to have three fully-trained nurses, the matron and one nurse to do duty by day, and the other by night, the two nurses being interchangeable every three months between day and night duty. This arrangement gives every one of the three proper hours for rest and recreation, and always ensures there being present in the hospital a trained nurse. I have seen cottage hospitals left entirely for hours in the charge of a probationer quite new to her work.

Young women taking up nursing fondly imagine that they can get their training at a cottage hospital, and no one is kind enough to tell them that this is impossible. I am strongly of opinion that a novice in nursing is entirely out of place in a cottage hospital. It would, indeed, be gratifying if the managers of cottage hospitals could be induced to consider carefully the conditions and hours of service of their nurses. It is thoughtless and cruel to run a hospital at the expense of its nurses, instead of its subscribers."

MISS BARBARA CHAPMAN has not been appointed Matron of Charing Cross Hospital, as stated in the August number of the *Nurses' Journal*. The appointment is not vacant, as Miss Gordon has not resigned, and was naturally surprised at the announcement in the *Nurses' Journal*.

MR. EDWARD MARTIN SEYMOUR in writing to the *Daily Mail*, re *Glory Quayle*, says:—

"For literary and other purposes I have for many years made the profession of nursing a particular study, and I have not the slightest hesitation in declaring that a large proportion of young women join its ranks for the same purposes as another contingent of impostors become so-called 'actresses'—viz., that of covering and promoting other designs.

I do not say that these designs are always directly malicious, but at best they are directed towards the embracing of 'opportunities' which in a more private sphere of life would be denied to them; they are, in fact, on the look-out for a chance of indulging vagrant and other instincts. Each of these two classes of impostors disgraces the profession which it adopts, and the sooner they can be ousted from the positions they claim to fill, the better for all concerned."

If this be so, no stronger argument could possibly be used to prove the necessity for legal registration, for which the most thoughtful amongst nurses have pleaded long and earnestly. We feel sure then when once the public realises the consequences involved to itself in the present disorganised condition of the nursing profession, it will demand that trained nurses shall be compelled to place their names upon a register to which it has access, and from which the names of those who are found unworthy to remain upon it will be removed.

WE learn from a contemporary that when Mr. Hall Caine's story "The Christian" was coming out in the *Windsor Magazine* he was "frequently attacked on the score of inaccuracy by sundry aggrieved sections of society." In vindication of his accuracy we are told that "Mr. Chevalier read the proofs, and he endorses the Cockney dialect. A sporting expert read the Derby scene. The details of the rehearsals were submitted to the eye of an eminent player, and the extraordinarily impressive chapters dealing with the monastic life of the Bishopgate brotherhood were revised by Father Adderley." As we are not given the name of the hospital matron who revised the nursing details it is in nowise logical to draw the deduction, which apparently our contemporary would have us make, that the hospital scenes depicted are equally accurate. If indeed an expert in nursing matters did read the proofs it would be highly satisfactory to the nursing world to know it. If not we think that nurses have a right to ask why the chapters relating to nursing were not submitted to a competent authority, when so much trouble was taken to ensure the accuracy of the rest of the book.

THE matron of an important provincial hospital recently inquired why Mr. Hall Caine was not present at the tea party, given by the Treasurer of the Royal British Nurses' Association to some of the members. We are not in Mr. Langton's confidence, and are therefore unable to verify our opinion, but we should imagine that Mr. Hall Caine was probably invited, but was unable to be present. Otherwise, the oversight would have been most strange, for the members were invited to meet Sir Henry C. Burdett, who considered it "a fair criticism" to describe the members of the Royal British Nurses' Association in his paper as "the scum of the nursing profession," and women of "pseudo-respectability," and Lady Priestley, who last January held up the whole nursing profession to public opprobrium in the *Nineteenth Century*. We cannot but think that the occasion chosen by Mr. Langton to exercise hospitality towards these particular members of his visiting circle could scarcely have been more unfortunate.

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